

As an IT worker who depends on open source software for my business and my home use, I am alarmed by further efforts to mandate copy-protection schemes that are not needed. As an example, because of the disgraceful state of US IP law, I am currently forced to commit a crime every time I watch my legally purchased DVDs on my PC under Linux. DVD's are "protected" by a DRM scheme that does nothing to prevent piracy but does create new crimes. Through bitter experience most of the online open source community is quite certain that the proposed broadcast flag mandate is unlikely to deter serious media pirates but will make it increasingly less easy for private citizens to legally create, distribute, and consume digital content. I urge the FCC to reject any temptation to impose government mandate on the digital media industry.